

SENATE No. 1669

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Creem, Cynthia (SEN)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act prohibiting the release of a minor's personal information by the media.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Creem, Cynthia (SEN)

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Middlesex and Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S00887 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE RELEASE OF A MINOR'S PERSONAL INFORMATION BY THE MEDIA.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 214 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 3B the following section:-

3 Section 3C. (a) For purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following
4 meanings:-

5 “Minor”, a person under 18 years of age who is not a subject of legitimate public concern or
6 interest.

7 “Personal information”, the name, address or electronic mail address of a minor as defined in this
8 section.

9 (b) No television station, radio station, internet website, or other electronic broadcast media
10 outlet shall broadcast and no newspaper or magazine sold or distributed to the general public

11 shall publish the personal information of any minor whose image appears in any broadcast or
12 photograph without the express written consent of a parent or legal guardian of the minor.

13 (c) A parent or legal guardian of any minor whose personal information is broadcast or
14 published in violation of this section may bring a civil action in the superior court on behalf of
15 the minor and against the person or entity so using his personal information to prevent and
16 restrain the use thereof and may recover damages for any injuries sustained because of the use of
17 the personal information.